

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

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S/ S- MR. BARNES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064483

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

SCUL CH

SUBJECT: US- PRC EXCHANGES

REFERENCE: STATE 54784

PLEASE CONVEY TO PRC EMBASSY FOLLOWING STATUS REPORT ON
PREPARATIONS FOR US- PRC SPORTS EXCHANGES.

1. US BASKETBALL TEAMS: WE ARE TALKING WITH TOP US
COLLEGIATE BASKETBALL TEAMS. SINCE COLLEGE TEAM MEMBERS
FACE FINAL EXAMINATIONS IN EARLY JUNE, THEY WOULD PREFER
TO SEND TEAM TO PRC AFTER JUNE 10, RATHER THAN IN LATE
MAY, IF CONVENIENT WITH THE PRC.

2. US SWIMMING TEAM: PETER DALAND, US SWIMMING COACH
FROM UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, WHO WAS US
OLYMPIC MEN' S COACH IN MUNICH 1972, AND US OLYMPIC
WOMEN' S COACH IN MEXICO 1968, IS FORMING TEAM OF ABOUT
TWELVE TOP MEN AND WOMEN SWIMMERS, SELECTED NATIONWIDE.
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DALAND AND SWIMMERS WOULD BE ABLE TO TRAVEL IN MID OR LATE MAY OR IN JUNE, AT PRC CONVENIENCE. IF PRC AGREES, WE COULD SIMPLY SWITCH DATES OF SWIMMING AND BASKETBALL, AND SEND SWIMMING TEAM IN LATE MAY AND BASKETBALL TEAM IN MID- JUNE. WOULD THIS BE AGREEABLE TO PRC?

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION ON TYPES OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED OF BOTH TEAMS. FOR EXAMPLE, HOW MUCH COMPETITION, HOW MUCH DEMONSTRATION, HOW MUCH COACHING, HOW MANY FRIENDLY VISITS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES?

3. PRC GYMNASTS: THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON US- CHINA RELATIONS HAS INFORMED THE PRC UN MISSION THAT A JUNE TOUR BY PRC GYMNASTS IS FEASIBLE AND THAT IT WILL BE ARRANGED BY THE U. S. GYMNASTICS FEDERATION IN CO-SPONSORSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON US- CHINA RELATIONS. HOWEVER, THEY ALSO INFORMED THE PRC UN MISSION THAT A TOUR BY PRC GYMNASTS IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER WOULD ATTRACT MORE FAVORABLE ATTENTION BECAUSE AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WOULD BE BACK IN SESSION AFTER THE SUMMER VACATION. THE PRC UN MISSION WAS ASKED WHETHER THE PRC HAS A PREFERENCE BETWEEN JUNE AND THE AUTUMN FOR THE GYMNASTS TOUR.

4. IN ORDER TO FINALIZE THE ARRANGEMENTS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE HAVE ANSWERS TO THE FOREGOING QUESTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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